Numb. 1.

The TORY TATLER.

Monday, November 27. 1710.

MY Intention in Publiſhing this Paper is to expoſe Vice, Folly and Affectation in all their different Shapes and Diſguiſes, and to recommend Vertue, good Manners, and Simplicity of Life.

If in doing this I can at once divert and inſtruct my Countrymen, one great End of my Undertaking is anſwer'd; and if I can get Money into the Bargain, I ſhall be richly conſcious of having ſpent my Time well.

So Publick Spirited a Perſon am I, that in conſulting the Good of the Community, I ſhall not even exclude my ſelf; and to the End the Advantages ariſing from my Labours may be ſtill more extenſive and Univerſal, I am willing to add one to the Number of thoſe who ſhall be the better for them.

You are therefore deſired after that Number of Papers (which I ſhall give rather as a Specimen of my Generoſity than my Wit) to purchaſe the reſt at the Price of one Penny each, which ſhall be faithfully apply'd to the Uſes for which it is deſign'd, to witt, the buying the beſt Claret, Beef and Pudding in the Kingdom, for the more due Support of one of Her Majeſty's moſt Dutiful and Loyal Subjects.

The Days of Publication ſhall be Mondays, Wedneſdays *and* Fridays, *there being then the greateſt Scarcity of publick Prints, which reduces many honeſt and well meaning People to the diſmal Neceſſity of having Recourſe to their own Heads for Thought, and lays the leſs inventive Part of Mankind in a State of Indolence and Supineneſs.*

And leſt the Retailers of Tea and Coffee in Great Britain, *who are no leſs Free born Citizens than my ſelf, ſhould take Umbrage hereat, and think it great Injuſtice, that, notwithſtanding the ordinary Taxes, every Scribler ſhould have it in his Power to* Tattle *them into an additional Expence of three Pence a Week; I ſolemnly declare and promiſe that all ſuch as can make it appear, that their Breaking is owing to the Encouragement given to this Paper, ſhall be put into good Buſineſs again by the Company of Stationers,* which is an Advantage that has not hitherto been offer'd by any of my Contemporaries.

To ſum up my whole Deſign in a Word, nothing inconſiſtent with Honour, good Manners or Loyalty ſhall be by me mentioned; Vices ſhall be Condemned, but Perſons not Arraigned; no Lady ſhall have the Satisfaction of ſeeing others or her ſelf Lampoon'd *by me, no Coxcomb the Pleaſure of being made known, even tho' to his Diſadvantage.*

The Title I have taken was choſe only as a Term of Diſtinction, and not with any Intention to enter into Party Diſputes: I ſhall acquieſce in the Wiſdom of my Superiors, and confine my Thoughts purely to Subjects of Pleaſantry, Humour and Morality.

It is a pleaſant Project, I confeſs, to hope to pleaſe without Scandal, or to attempt to oblige any without diſobliging more: Yet becauſe I would not be ſo intolerably ſingular as not to entertain a pretty good Opinion of my ſelf, I will venture to ſay what Mareſchal Villars *did heretofore to* Lewis *of* France: You ſhall be ſatisfied with the TORY TATLER—— *whoſe Motto and Character it ſhall be*

Parcere perſonis, dicere de vitijs.

From White's *Chocholate Houſe, Nov.* 25.

THIS being a Place that is much frequented by Men of Gallantry, the Diſcourſe generally turns upon Women and Amours: I lately heard here the Difference betwixt an amorous Woman and a Coquet nicely exemplifi'd, in the Perſons of two Siſters, who are great Fortunes and celebrated Toaſts: *Julia* is Amorous; *Thais* a Coquet: The firſt paſſionatly aims at being lov'd; the other deſires onely to appear lovely: The one endeavours to gain Affection, the other is content with Approbation: This labours to engage; That to pleaſe: *Julia* is taken up with a conſtant Succeſſion of real Amours; *Thais* entertains her ſelf with variety of Amuſements: Paſſion and Pleaſure are the predominant Qualities in the former; Vanity and Pride in the latter: After all, if I were reduc'd to the miſerable Neceſſity of chooſing one, I wou'd rather wed *Thais* than *Julia*; becauſe I think a little fantaſtic Jealoſie more ſupportable than certain irremediable Diſgrace: A Coquetiſh Humour is more an irregularity and levity of the Mind than a Debauchery of it, but Amorouſneſs proceeds from the Heat of the Conſtitution, and a ſtrong ungovernable Propenſity to Ill: The Coquetiſh often make themſelves to be hated; but the Amorous ought to be fear'd and ſhun'd: Theſe two Ladies, I have been ſpeaking off, are poſſeſt of Lovers exactly ſuitable to their reſpective Characters: *Caſtalio*, who is a ſolemn grave Man, is in Love with *Julia*: Sleeping or waking, his Thoughts and Words are of purling Streams, *Elizian* Groves and Lovers Paradice; he ranſacks both the *Indies* for Pearls Jems and Rubies to adorn his Miſtreſs with, and cou'd mope and languiſh in her Company whole Days and Nights, without once thinking of the neceſſary Offices of Life. *Floridor*, than whom there never liv'd a truer or more agreeable Rake, is in Love with *Thais*: He is always Gay and unconcern'd, and the ſelf ſame Man in his Lady's Preſence as he is

is in her Abſence, at ſometimes he follows her cloſely for a Week; at others leaves her for a Month, and is as whimſical and capricious as ſhe can be for her Soul: If one peeps into his Scrutore, *Thais* is alternatly the Subject of his Panegyricks and his Satyrs: Somtimes he pays his Viſits when ſhe wou'd not have him; at others refuſes to go when ſhe ſends for him: He calls her Angel and Fiend almoſt in the ſame Breath; now drinks her Health with Tranſport, then breaks his Glaſs in Paſſion; now mentions her Name with Rapture; then wiſhes her at the Devil.

From Drury-Lane, *Nov.* 27.

There never was in *England* nor I believe in any other Country, a more accompliſh'd Set of Comedians, than we have at preſent. *Wilks* outſhines all that have gone before him in repreſenting the pleaſurable gallant Part of Life: *Cibber* excels in expoſing the Foppe-ries: *Eſtcourt* the Affectation: And *Johnſon* the Infirmities of human Nature. *Ophelia* has the Advantage of a ſweet Air, and graceful Perſon; and as ſhe is a lovely Woman, wou'd certainly be a very cleaver agreeable Actreſs, did ſhe but look leſs Confident: I love a little Modeſty even in a Player, and think it engaging, tho' it be affected. Let *Bullock* ſtrenuoſly endeavour to look ſillily, and *Cibber* forbear to impoſe his dull Prologues on the Town. Let *Glaucopis* act in Boys Cloths, and *Pinckethman* in Women's; and I ſhall continue to keep up a fair Correſpondence with the Theatre, and endeavour all I can to promote and encourage the Uſe of thoſe noble Repreſentations, which have in all Polite Ages and Countries been the moſt ſolid Entertainment and refin'd Pleaſure to Men of Senſe.

From Mumpers *Hall Nov.* 23.

It is no unprofitable Task ſomtimes to enter into a View of the Manners and Humours that are incident to the loweſt Part of Mankind; the Contemplation may be inſtructive, and is always diverting. It was with this Thought that I yielded to the Solicitations of a Friend, who had often de-ſired he might introduce me into *Mumpers Hall:* When we came there, he placed me privately at a convenient Diſtance, from whence I could take an eaſie Survey of all the merry Mendicants aſſembled there, and obſerve their Proceedings. I was no ſooner ſeated, but I had the Satisfaction of ſeeing abundance of ſharp Sighted Blind Folks, and very nimble Cripples; here were many Wives without Husbands, and many Fathers who had no Children; here were People with Cartaracts, who could read very well, and poor Scholars who could not read at all; here were Women, who tho' their Defor-mity and Naſtineſs had preſerv'd their Virgini-ty, were yet bleſs'd with a numerous Iſſue; and theſe were a ſort of Children-Mongers, that were always chopping and changing, buying and ſelling of Bantlings, which, it ſeems, bore a very good Price; *Tom Creeper* inſtead of crawl-ing upon all four, cou'd now ſtand upright or ſit decently in a Chair; ſome as I found by their Diſcourſe, had been good Houſe-keepers and paid Scot and Lot. Others had ſuſtain'd great Loſſes by Fire, but all acknowledg'd they never liv'd ſo well in their Proſperity, as ſince they had been reduc'd to a ſtarving Condition: Five Shillings was but an indifferent Morning's Work with them, and I obſerv'd they always diſtinguiſh'd between what was given them, and what they had got: As they were in gene-ral very curio s in their Diet, ſo were they no leſs lofty in their Diſcourſe, and I muſt own I was agreeably enough ſurpris'd to find that Po-liticks were not expell'd even from this Place, and that no body cou'd be more familiar than they with her *Majeſty*, the Duke of *Marlborough* Prince *Eugene* and the States of *Holland*: Pub-lick ſpirited Perſons theſe! thought I, and wor-thy Members of the Commonwealth, who, tho' their condition would be the ſame in all Go-vernments, yet ſeem heartily to wiſh that the preſent may flourish, and who hate Tyranny tho' they cannot be ſaid to have any Property.

Silence was now proclaim'd, and Notice gi-ven that it was time for them to break up their Rendezvous and diſtribute themſelves into the various Quarters of this Spacious City, every one to his reſpective Poſt: Upon this, ſuch ſtrange Changes and Metamorphoſes enſued, that I was ne'er ſo confounded and amaz'd in all my Life; I thought them all Mad and Diſtra-cted; they threw away their Arms and Eyes, their Legs and Noſes like Bedlamites. Every one diſpoſed of a particular Member, and took ſomewhat elſe in the Room of it; only ſome few I obſerv'd, who inſtead of parting with their Limbs dilated them, and made them look three times as big as they were before. They all fell into Fits of Sighing and Groaning, and were ſeiz'd with Aches, Throbs and Diſeaſes; you might perceive a general Contraction in their Nerves and Joynts, a Faintneſs in the Tone of their Voices, and a diſmal Wanneſs in their Com-plexions; the Strait became crooked; thoſe who had been the Minute before computing how many Months they had to reckon, were now terribly afflicted with the Dropſie, and thoſe who had tipled moſt plentifully, were trou-bled with the Falling-Sickneſs; one whom I thought the noiſieſt Fellow in the whole Com-pany, was immediately ſtruck dumb, and be-gan to make Signs; another who had a Bruiſe upon his Head, which I underſtood had been of no ſmall Service to him, was curſing and ſwearing at the poor Surgeon, who was ſo kind and compaſſionate as to dreſs his Wound *Gratis*; I wiſh, ſays he, the Devil had him and his damn'd Charity, he'll certainly be my Ruin by cureing me too ſoon.

I was now even glad to get out of the Crowd as faſt as I cou'd and leave this Scene of Hypocriſie which wrought in me variety of Reflexions, and among other things a ſtrong Conviction, that the World was made up of Impoſture and Pretence, and that the com-mon Buſineſs of Mankind was to impoſe up-on one another, to deceive and be deceiv'd.

Sold by *John Baker* at the *Black Boy* in *Pater-Noſter-Row*.